

LOCAL



Writer Rosabelle Illes invited to the 2018 Formosa International Poetry Festival

ORANJESTAD — Rosabelle Illes, artist, writer and performer of Aruba, received an invitation to be part of the Formosa International Poetry Festival which will take place in Taiwan between September 21st till the 27th. This event is organized by Tamsui Culture Foundation.

Rosabelle Illes, born in Aruba has been writing since she was 6 years old. At that time she only wrote poems for her family members. On special occasions her mother would give her a pile of greeting cards to fill in. She discovered her spiritual writings when she was 12. It all began with the poem 'Heaven On Earth', which is dedicated to her father. After sharing it with several people she realized that many could relate to it and enjoyed it. So she began to write not only to share with others, but to share with herself as well, since she too became curious.....

In 2016 Illes took part in an event in Bogota called "Fe-

ria Internacional del libro" (International Book Fair). Here she met a writer, Roberto Max Steenkist, who selected Illes as one of 123 poets around the world to be part of the International Anthology named "Oir ese Rio", hearing that river. All poets received a task in which they needed to write a poem about the river. Seeing that Aruba has no rivers Illes needed to improvise. She saw an image of a vein and decided to name her poem "Vein" and dedicated this to the river of our body. After the Anthology of "hearing that River" was published in Colombia and Argentina, Illes received an email from a re-known poet in Taiwan Mr. Lee Kuei-shien. Kuei-Shen who also took part of the Anthology invited Illes as one of the 15 international poets selected to be part of the famous Formosa International Poetry Festival in Taiwan.

Illes is extremely honored to be part of this project and is looking forward in learning more of their literature, get

to know more poets and continue exchanging ideas which makes her more and more curious about art and which will help her in her personal development.

Illes launched her first collection of poetry entitled Beyond Insanity. Five years later, she released Spiel di mi Alma(2010) (Mirror of my soul)—a collection of poetry written in her native language of Papiamentu. Inspired by the notion of the world coming to an end in 2012, she created an Art Calendar entitled Wholism. She began exploring the discipline of prose while completing her minor in English literature during her bachelors' studies. After some of her short-stories were published in international journals, she decided to accumulate the pieces and include new poetry to create her third book TITLE (2016)—a collection of short stories, poems and thoughts. This year she will be introducing her 4th book which is a multilingual children's book written in partnership with Levi



Silvanie of Curacao. Next to her own publications, she continues to collaborate with artists, companies and organizations creating content-based pieces, per-

formances and projects.

For more information about Rosabelle Illes visit her website www.rosabelleilles.com



Vein

Vein, I would like to thank you for your humble presence in my life,
for patiently tracing the root of my body without demanding recognition
You're to be admired, you know, Vein?
With the utmost tranquility you carry the answer without protection
Transporting the solution with fluidity without question
Reason is irrelevant once you surrender, isn't it, Vein?
Floating blindly, you who connect the human race, I shall name you 'current of my soul,'
is that okay?
If at any moment,
for whatever reason,
you find yourself obstructed,
meditate on our purpose
and I promise to surrender
Before I recite my prayer in your name,
I shall repeat your name 3 times,
Once for each breath you've taught me to take
Vein
Vein
Vein

originally written in Papiamentu by Rosabelle Illes
Translated to English by Jonelle Hector